

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 06603 241350Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 HA-05 IO-13 AID-05  
EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /103 W  
-----039235 241400Z /42

O 241320Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 557  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY RABAT  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE POUCH  
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI  
AMCONSUL BUKAVU POUCH

CONFIDENTIAL KINSHASA 6603

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT EAID CG  
SUBJ: MOBUTU ANNOUNCES AMNESTY FOR REFUGEES AND CRACKDOWN ON  
CORRUPT SOLDIERS AND GENDARMES

REF: KINSHASA 6507

IN EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEECH IN LINGALA AT KINKOLE FISHING VILLAGE JUNE 24,

MOBUTU  
AGAIN LASHED OUT AT INTERNATIONAL PRESS CRITICISM OF ZAIRE, REPEATING  
THE  
ARGUMENTS HE MADE BEFORE LEGISLATORS JUNE 21 (REFTEL) TO THE EFFECT  
THAT  
ZAIRE IS NOT THE "SICK MAN OF AFRICA" AND ISNOT BEING "RECOLONIZED" BY  
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EXPATRIATE EXPERTS. ON A MORE POSITIVE NOTE, HE ALSO ANNOUNCED  
--AN AMNESTY FOR ALL ZAIRIAN REFUGEES;  
--A CRACKDOWN ON SOLDIERS AND POLICE WHO EXTORT MONEY FROM  
INNOCENT CIVILIANS;AND  
--THE END OF THE MILITARY EMERGENCY IN SHABA.

2. ADDRESSING LARGE CROWD WHICH INCLUDED DIPLOMATIC CORPS, MOBUTU ANNOUNCED THAT HE INTENDS TO SUBMIT A DRAFT LAW ON AMNESTY OF ZAIRIAN REFUGEES LIVING IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR REVISION AND APPROVAL. HE WILL THEN TRANSMIT THE DOCUMENT TO OAU CHAIRMAN BONGO AND TO THE UN HIGH COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR) WITH THE REQUEST THAT THE UNHCR SUPERVISE THE REPATRIATION OF THOSE WHO CHOOSE TO RETURN TO ZAIRE IN ORDER TO ASSURE THAT THEY ARE TREATED FAIRLY. BE REFERRING TO FORMER POLITICAL EXILE KAMIATU, NOW LIVING QUIETLY IN KINSHASA, AS AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT HEHOPED THE AMNESTY PROGRAMWOULD ACCOMPLISH, MOBUTU IMPLIED THAT THEAMNESTY MIGHT ALSO EXTEND TO EXILES IN GENERAL RATHER THAN ONLY TO REFUGEES IN NEIGHBORING AFRICAN COUNTRIES.

3. THE CROWD CAME ALIVE WHEN MOBUTU TURNED TO QUESTION OF ABUSIVE SOLDIERS AND POLICE (GENDARMES). MOBUTU DECLARED THAT HE WOULD PERSONALLY SEE THAT ANY SOLDIER, POLICEMAN, OR OTHER GOZ OFFICIAL CAUGHT DEMANDING AND ILLEGAL PAYMENT WOULD BE DISMISSED IMMEDIATELY.

4. COMMENT: THE THREE MEASURES ANNOUNCED BY MOBUTU INDICATE A MORE FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE REGARDING PRESSURES FOR REFORM THAN WAS EVIDENT IN HIS JUNE 21 SPEECH AND COULD HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT IF IMPLEMENTED. THE END OF EMERGENCY MEASURES IN SHABA, COUPLED WITH THE AMNESTY OFFER, PAVE THE WAY FOR ADDITIONAL STEPS TOWARD IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE GOZ AND SHABA. A REDUCTION IN CORRUPTION BY SOLDIERS AND CONFIDENTIAL

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OTHERS WOULD REDUCE POPULAR DISCONTENT THROUGHOUT ZAIRE. WHAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN, HOWEVER, IS THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE REGIME WILL FOLLOW THROUGH. RADIO TRANSMISSION OF SPEECH WAS INTERRUPTED SEVERAL TIMES. FURTHER REPORT WILL FOLLOW WHEN WE HAVE ACCESS TO MORE COMPLETE TEXT.  
CUTLER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMNESTY, REFUGEES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978KINSHA06603  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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